

The REFUGEES

By A. CONAN DOYLE,
Author of "The Hound of the Baskervilles"

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(Continued)

CHAPTER XX.

LEAVING Port St. Louis upon their

travels, the refugees pointed out

as easily as they could the

for the sun was so low in the

the track which led down the

these shadows like trees.

Then suddenly as they passed in front

of them between the trunk of the

of the sword turned to the line of the

the water, and they saw a broad river

running swiftly both before them. Anus

and De Catinat had both been upon the

locom of the locomotive before, and the

their horses bounded as they looked upon

it, for they knew that this was the

the straight path which led them, the

one to home and the other to peace and

freedom.

Across the river was the terrible tri-

country, and at the point they

could see the smoke of fires curling up

into the evening air. They followed

the track which led down the eastern

bank. As they pushed onward a stern

military halting, and they brought them

to a stand, and they saw the gleam

of two market barrels which covered

them from a thick and impenetrable

the path.

"We are friends," cried De Catinat.

"Where come you, then?" asked an

inhabitant.

"From Quebec."

"And where are you going?"

"To visit M. Charles de la Noe, seigneur of St. Marie."

"Very good. It is quite safe, Du

Laurent. They have a great number of

I greet you, madame, in the name

of my father."

"We have just emerged from the

houses, one of whom might have

passed as a full-blooded Indian. He

was not, but he had the same look

not been for those countless women,

which he uttered in excellent French.

He was a tall, slight young man, very

dark, with piercing black eyes and a

grace, and his countenance, though

could only have been with Indian de-

cent.

The other was undoubtedly a pure

Frenchman, elderly, dark and wiry,

with a leonine hair, beard and

eyes, eager face. Leaning upon his

long legs, he stood watching the

party, while his companion stared

toward them.

"You will excuse our precautions,"

said the first.

"We never knew what date

it was. It may be to enter up

the day, but you have had a very

trying journey."

"We are very glad to see you,"

said the second.

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